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# Probabilistic Graphical Models

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**Organized by:**  
Institute of Information Theory and Automation,  
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## Preface

The biennial International Conference on *Probabilistic Graphical Models* (PGM) brings together researchers interested in all aspects of graphical models for probabilistic reasoning, decision making, and learning.

Previous PGM meetings were held in Cuenca (2002), Leiden (2004), Prague (2006), Hirtshals (2008), Helsinki (2010), Granada (2012), Utrecht (2014), and Lugano (2016). The ninth edition takes place again in Prague (Czech Republic) on September 11–14, 2018. For the second time, the proceedings are published within the series *JMLR: Workshop and Conference Proceedings*. We believe this confirms the scientific quality of the papers presented at PGM 2018.

For the ninth edition of PGM, there were 73 abstract submissions but only 64 full paper submissions. Note that the deadline for abstract submissions was 9 days before the deadline for full paper submissions; thus, 2 abstract submissions were withdrawn and 7 authors have not submitted their full papers in time. Despite that, 64 is the second highest number of submissions in history of PGM meetings (after 69 submissions for PGM 2016 held in Lugano).

These 64 papers were peer-reviewed in a single-blind regime. Each of them was reviewed by three independent referees (PC members) and Easy-Chair system was used to handle the reviewing process. In the end, 51 papers were accepted for the presentation at the conference but 1 of them was withdrawn by its authors after the acceptance. Consequently, there are 50 papers to be presented during the conference (29 of them as talks and 21 of them as posters). In these JMLR proceedings 45 papers appear and 5 remaining workshop papers (= papers in progress) appear in special Workshop Proceedings.

Here we would like to thank the 68 Program Committee members (including 2 subreviewers) for their outstanding job during the reviewing process.

Besides the technical programme, one keynote lecture is going to be presented a distinguished speaker Steffen Lauritzen (University of Copenhagen, Denmark).

A new aspect of PGM 2018 is that a student paper competition has been organized, entitled *BayesFusion Best Student Paper Award* after the donator of the award. There were 38 student papers submitted for the conference. The results of the student competition will be announced during the conference dinner. In Prague, August 2018

*Milan Studený, Václav Kratochvíl*